

Sara Nelson
International President
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO

Sara Nelson took office as the International President of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO on June 1, 2014, and she is currently serving her second four-year term.

Sara became a United Airlines Flight Attendant in 1996 and has been a union activist since nearly the beginning of her flying career, including serving as strike chair and leading communications for nearly 10 years at AFA's United chapter. Sara is passionate about AFA's continued mission to achieve fair compensation, job security, and improved quality of life for aviation's first responders as well as a safe, healthy and secure aircraft cabin for passengers and crew alike. She believes Flight Attendants can play a pivotal role in strengthening the Labor Movement with more public contact than almost any other job and access to every corner of the earth.

Sara led AFA's efforts to achieve eighteen legislative victories in the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, including achieving a two hour increase in minimum legal rest for Flight Attendants and other efforts to combat fatigue on the job. Before that, she led the 90-day campaign to reverse national security policy to keep knives and other weapons off planes. She also crafted the campaign for "100,00 Eyes in the Skies," which successfully resulted in mandatory training for Flight Attendants to recognize and report human trafficking. Recently, Sara has served as a leading voice on issues facing women in the workplace and across the country, encouraging women everywhere to "Join Unions, Run Unions."

Sara grew up in Corvallis, Oregon and earned a bachelor's degree from Principia College with majors in English and Education. She resides in the DC area with her husband, David Borer and son Jack.